

Message Text

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ORIGIN INT-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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APPROVED BY OMSN:PRROSENBLATT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII PRIORITY 0488

SECDEF WASHDC 0457

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PASS TO SLNO AND HICOM FROM AMBASSADOR ROSENBLATT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TQ, NR

SUBJECT: MAY 30, 1978 PDN ARTICLE ON ALLEGED NAURU

- FUNDING OF MARSHALL ISLANDS POLITICAL STATUS
- COMMISSION

REF: SLNO 223, DTG 020105Z JUN 78

1.(C) PUBLICATION OF REFERENCED ARTICLE RAISES AN ISSUE
AT TWO LEVELS:

- A. THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S AND REFERENDUM BOARD'S
RESPONSIBILITIES REGARDING TT LAW.

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- B. POLITICAL STATUS ISSUES INTERTWINED WITH THE
JULY 12 REFERENDUM.

2.(C) PROMPTLY ON RECEIPT OF REFTEL I CALLED COPAKEN TO
MAKE INQUIRY, WHICH I ASKED HIM TO CONVEY TO HIS CLIENT,
AS TO TRUTH OF THE PDN ALLEGATION. COPAKEN UNDERTOOK TO

MAKE THE INQUIRY AND GET BACK TO ME WITH A RESPONSE. IN THE MEANWHILE, WE AND STATESIDE USG DEPARTMENTS WILL AVOID VOLUNTEERING COMMENT ON THE PDN ALLEGATION. IF,

HOWEVER, WE ARE ASKED FOR A REACTION, WE PROPOSE TO STATE SIMPLY THAT PROMPT INQUIRY WAS MADE OF MIPSC RE THIS UNSUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATION AND THAT WE WILL HAVE NOTHING FURTHER TO SAY UNTIL WE HAVE RECEIVED MIPSC'S RESPONSE.

3.(C) WE ASSUME THAT COM/VOM WILL SOONER OR LATER PRESS USG/TTG/REFERENDUM BOARD FOR SOME STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT THE TRANSACTION, IF IT IS PROVEN TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE, WAS ILLEGAL.

4.(C) ANY SUCH STATEMENT ON THIS SUBJECT CAN BE EXPECTED TO PRODUCE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN IN ITS FINAL WEEKS. WE WILL WISH TO MINIMIZE THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE ULTIMATE LOSER OF THE REFERENDUM COULD CHARGE USG OR TTG WITH HAVING DECISIVELY INFLUENCED THE OUTCOME, EVEN IF THE STATEMENT WHICH IS ALLEGED TO HAVE HAD THAT EFFECT IS AMPLY JUSTIFIED ON THE FACTS.

5.(U) WE WILL APPRECIATE HAVING BENEFIT OF THE SLNO'S AND HICOM'S THINKING ON THIS MATTER AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON AN ULTIMATE POSITION.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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